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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/267,223 03/11/99 RICHTER

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WM31/0406

EXAMINER

GARCIA, G

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2624

DATE MAILED:

04/06/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No. 09/267,223	Applicant(s) Richter et al.
Examiner G. Garcia	Group Art Unit 2624

Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____

This action is FINAL.

Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle* 35 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire three month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claim

Claim(s) 1-20 _____ is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

Claim(s) 1-20 _____ is/are rejected.

Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is approved disapproved.

The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

All Some* None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

received.

received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 4

Interview Summary, PTO-413

Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

Part III DETAILED ACTION

1. This application has been examined. Claims 1-20 are pending in this application.

2. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "comprises" or "comprised" should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

3. The Abstract of the Disclosure is objected to because it contains the objectionable language described above. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of

section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

5. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Onaga (5,727,135).

With regard to claim 1; Onaga teaches a printing system (e.g. figure 1), comprising: a network (160); an output printing device (110e, 110, b or 180) capable of receiving print jobs from said network and printing said print jobs, said output printing device having at least one of said plurality of features, said output printing device having at least one of said plurality of features output to said network (e.g. figure 1 and col. 3, lines 43-60); at least one client computer (150) connected to said network, said at least one client computer having at least one said print job (e.g. figure 1); and an administrative link (e.g. col. 5, lines 18-34) connected to said network, said administrative link capable of receiving and displaying said at least one of said plurality of features from said output printing device, and displaying said status information regarding each of said at least one print jobs sent to said output printing devices from said client computers (e.g. figures 2, 3a and 3b).

With regard to claim 2, Onaga teaches wherein said output printing device is a printer or a copier (e.g. figure 1 and col. 3, lines 49-42).

With regard to claims 4 and 7, Onaga teaches wherein said at least one of said plurality of features is a paper input tray information or paper output tray information (e.g. col. 1, lines 32-64 and col. 3, lines 43-50).

With regard to claims 5 and 6, Onaga teaches wherein said at least one of said plurality of features is teaches wherein said output printing device is toner level information or fuser level information (e.g. col. 1, lines 32-64 and col. 3, lines 43-50).

With regard to claim 8, Onaga teaches wherein said at least one of said plurality of features is output printing device service information (e.g. col. 1, lines 30-58 and col. 7, lines 27-56).

With regard to claim 9, Onaga further teaches a print server (e.g. #20 or col. 1, lines 36-37) located between the network and the output printing device (see figure 1), said print server capable of receiving said print jobs from the network and sending said print jobs to said output printing device, and capable of receiving said at least one of said plurality of features from said output printing device and sending said received at least one of said plurality of features through said network connection to said administrative link (e.g. figs. 1-3 and col. 3, lines 24-50).

With regard to claim 10, Onaga further teaches a client print server link (e.g. 150c) on at least one of said at least one client computers for receiving and displaying said at least one of said plurality of features from said output printing device through said network connection, and for receiving and displaying status of each of said at least one print job sent to said output printing device from client computer (see figures 1-3).

With regard to claims 11-20, the limitations of claims 11-20 are covered by the limitations of claims 1-10 above.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

He et al. (6,088,451) teaches a security system and method for network element access.

Tan et al. (5,978,560) teaches a load balancing of distributed printing systems using enhanced printer attributes.

Maniwa (5,933,584) teaches a network system for unified business.

Colbert et al. (5,699,494) teaches a remote replication of printer operator panel.

Lobiondo (5,287,194) teaches a distributed printing system for optimum scheduling of printer jobs on a network.

Mitsuhasi et al. (EP 0575168 A1) teaches an information processing apparatus including an acquiring unit for acquiring information from a printer using a bi-directional interface.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gabriel I. Garcia whose telephone number is (703) 305-8751. The examiner can normally be reached Monday thru Thursday from 7:30AM-6:00PM.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700 or 4750.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 306-5406 (official)
(703) 308-5397 (unofficial)


Patent Examiner
Gabriel I. Garcia
April 2, 2001